

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application.

Claims 9-12 were previously withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-8, 13 and 14 are rejected.

Claims 1, 4, 8, 13 and 14 have been amended, as set forth herein.

Claims 9-12 have been canceled, without prejudice.

I. **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 1-8, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended Claims 1, 4, 8, 13 and 14 as requested in the Office Action.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejection of Claims 1-8, 13 and 14.

II. **CLAIMS 9-12**

Claims 9-12 have been canceled, without prejudice.

III. **CONCLUSION**

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant asserts that the remaining Claims in the Application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests an early allowance of such Claims.

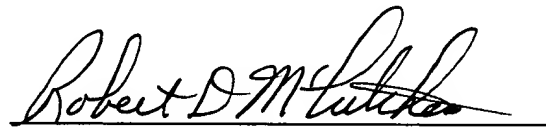
If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *rmccutcheon@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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